

App. No. 09/485097
Office Action Dated July 14, 2004
Amd. Dated November 5, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Claims 9-13 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-8 and 14 are pending.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-8 and 14.

Claim rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102/103

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Sumitomo (JP 52-6782). This rejection is rendered moot, as claims 9 and 10 have been canceled. Applicants do not concede the correctness of the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 11-13 are rejected under under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Smuck et al. (DE 42 02 920). This rejection is rendered moot, as claims 11-13 have been canceled. Applicants do not concede the correctness of the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sandt (US 2,833,686) in view of Sumitomo. This rejection is rendered moot, as claims 9

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and 10 have been canceled. Applicants do not concede the correctness of the rejection.

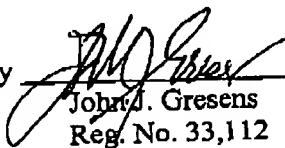
Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. Any questions or concerns regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, John J. Gresens, Reg. No. 33,112, at (612)371.5265.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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Dated: November 5, 2004

JJG:smm

